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EOC Daily Emergency Management Report

Date: 01/28/2014
Time: 0945 EST
Report No: 017-14

Alerts & Warnings

FEMA National Watch Center – Watch/Steady State
National Terrorism Advisory System (NTAS) – No Current Alerts
Continuity of Operations (COOP) COGCON Level is 4
EPA HQ at Level 6 (Steady State)

EPA Headquarters Activities

The ASPECT (Airborne Spectral Photometric Environmental Collection Technology) aircraft is located in Addison, TX and is operational and available for deployment.

The Portable High Throughput Integrated Laboratory Identification Systems (PHILIS) located in Edison, NJ and in Castle Rock, CO are operational and available for deployment.

The ERT Trace Atmospheric Gas Analyzer (TAGA) (Las Vegas, Edison, and RTP) and Mobile Command & HazMat Truck (Erlanger and Las Vegas) are available for deployment.

Significant National Weather

Severe Weather: A bitterly cold Arctic air mass has plunged southward behind a strong cold front into the Deep South. This situation combined with moisture flowing northward from the Gulf of Mexico will allow for a wide swath of accumulating snow and freezing rain from Texas to Virginia with the largest accumulations expected in or near the coastal areas of the Carolinas through today and into Wednesday. The heaviest precipitation is expected no later than tonight. A Winter Storm Warning is in effect from eastern Texas to southeastern Virginia and some areas in the Carolinas and the Virginia Tidewater region could receive in excess of 10 inches of snowfall by Wednesday when the cold front moves off the Atlantic coast.

Significant Flood Outlook: FEMA reports a series of avalanches on the Richardson Highway, in the area of Thompson Pass may cause potential flooding for Valdez, AK. The city is concerned that if the

blockage on Lowe River suddenly releases, subdivisions downstream could quickly flood. The National Weather Service issued Flash Flood Watch for the areas immediately downstream from the Lowe River blockage.

There is significant river flooding occurring today along the border of South Carolina and Georgia.

Critical Fire Weather: There are no areas of critical fire weather forecast for today.

Tornado Weather: There is a less than a 2-percent chance of tornado activity in all regions today.

Earthquake Activity: No significant earthquake activity.

Tropical Weather: There is no tropical cyclone activity forecasted for the Atlantic or Pacific Oceans at this time.

Report of Incident Notifications

Update: Region 3, Chemical Spill, Charleston WV – January 28, 2014

On January 10, the President approved an Emergency Declaration for 10 counties in West Virginia after 4-methylcyclohexanemethanol (MCHM) leaked from a tank and through a secondary containment area at a Freedom Industries chemical plant and into the Elk River in Charleston, WV. The spill occurred near the West Virginia American Water (WVAW) Treatment Plant. West Virginia water authorities issued a “Do Not Use Water Notice” for 10 counties telling them not to use tap water for drinking, cooking, washing, or bathing, which impacted 100,000 customers (300,000 people).

The West Virginia Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management has posted drinking water sampling results for MCHM as of January 26. Detectable levels continue to be seen. PPH results of earlier sampling are also posted. These samples were reported as non-detectable. See the website for results -<http://www.dhsem.wv.gov/Pages/WV-American-Water-Emergency.aspx>.

The facility is continuing to pump water upgradient of the secondary containment area. The majority of the site is frozen and most of the holes/sumps dug inside the tank containment are frozen and cannot be pumped.

The facility’s contractor broke the surface ice on the containment trench at the base of the hill and added salt to help melt the ice. The liner was pulled back and water, above and below the liner, was pumped out and into a tank for temporary storage. The facility reported that there was no sheen or smell of MCHM in the water. Ice in the river continues to disrupt the river booms. The facility contractor is attempting to break ice and to properly position the booms. Because of the ice, the boom is repositioned further from the river bank, which will require a plan for proper maintenance. To research options, the USCG will contact northern stationed USCG personnel experienced with deploying boom in icy conditions.

The facility and its remediation consultant, CEC, met with WVDEP, EPA, and USCG today, to discuss the remediation plan. Based upon the meeting discussions WVDEP, EPA, and USCG gave verbal approval to begin sampling. The site team will further evaluate the plan, which will be approved later in writing.

In an effort to strengthen laboratory analysis of MCHM and PPH, chemists and lab managers from nine organizations including EPA, are working collaboratively to share information and analytical data about the mixture. Participants include the National Guard, WV American Water, American Water Research,

REI Consulting, DuPont Inc., Dow Inc., Matric Inc., ATSDR, and EPA. The group is looking to identify analytical techniques that will allow for lower detection limits for the single compounds, MCHM and PPH, in water. The lower detection limits will increase the capacity of laboratories to detect MCHM and PPH in water at orders of magnitude below the health risk levels.

The Governor of West Virginia officially requested direct funding from FEMA yesterday to assist the state and local agencies burdened with mitigating the affects of the spill. The Governor requested Category B Emergency Protective measures, including direct funds to the nine counties currently evolved with spill response and recovery.

Route 24 Northbound Tanker Truck Rollover Fire: Fall River, MA

At about 0715, January 27, 2014, a tractor trailer carrying gasoline rolled over and caught fire on Route 24 in Fall River, MA. A Region 1 OSC integrated into the Unified Command with the Fall River Fire Department and MA Department of Environmental Protection (Mass DEP). They agreed that the contents of the gasoline tanker were probably fully consumed by the fire. The fire had burned itself out by 1015 hrs. It was decided that EPA air monitoring equipment assets were not needed. Neither gas fumes nor oil sheens were detected by the OSC in any of the wetland streams located in that area. MassDEP and Clean Harbors conducted site cleanup and additional sampling of the soil and surface water. The R1 OSC demobilized from the incident at 1300 hrs (<http://www.epaosc.org/route24gasolinetankertruckfire>.)

Cobb County Correction Center, Marietta, Cobb County, GA (NRC # 1072225)

Approximately 3000 gallons of #2 Red Diesel Fuel was released from a 6000 gallon Above Ground Storage Tank (AST) to containment. The containment drain valve was open and contents flowed to the storm sewer, into an unnamed tributary and then into Olley Creek which is a tributary of the Chattahoochee River. The release occurred over the weekend and was discovered on 01/27/2013 by the Cobb County Fire Department. Approximately 4.8 miles of creek were impacted. The Responsible Party hired a clean-up contractor. Containment and absorbent booms sets were deployed. The storm sewer has been flushed. The remaining product was removed from the AST and AST containment. Product recovery in the storm system and in the creek is ongoing. Approximately 6400 gallons of oily water has been recovered. A Region 4 OSC is overseeing and directing the operations. Spill cleanup operations will continue on 01/28/2013 (<http://epaosc.org/CobbCtyCorrectionsDiesel>.)

There were 36 epaosc.org websites created and/or updated during this reporting period (1/27/14-1/28/14).

Exercises/Predeployments

State of the Union Address: The President of the United States will deliver the 2014 State of the Union Address in the House of Representatives Chamber of the U.S. Capitol beginning at 2100 EST January 28, 2014. This event has been designated as a National Special Security Event by the Secretary of Homeland Security. Region 3 will be pre-deploying to the event and the HQ After Hours Watch Officer will be in “enhanced monitoring” mode.

The Bioresponse TableTop Exercise for the 2014 PARTNER Process will take place in the HQ EOC from January 28 – 30, 2014.

Region 7 Annual Emergency Response Program Training will be taking place in Kansas City, MO, January 28 – 31.

Regional Daily Ops Status Report

Reported activities primarily represent NRC notifications with some State-level and other notifications to Regional Phone Duty Officers.

Reported Activities (1/27/14-1/28/14)

| Region | Oil | Hazmat | Radiation | Other | Total |
|--------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Region 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Region 2 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| Region 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| Region 4 | 12 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 20 |
| Region 5 | 4 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 6 |
| Region 6 | 4 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 9 |
| Region 7 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Region 8 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Region 9 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 6 |
| Region 10 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 3 |
| Total | 29 | 13 | 1 | 10 | 53 |

Note: There were 7 unclassified events in the Hotline Log

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